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REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1-70 were originally filed in the application. In a first office action, claims 1, 3-6, 11-15, 18-24, 33, 35-38 and 43-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Anderson, Jr. et al (US Patent No. 6,578,203). Claims 2, 25, 26, 34, 57, 58 and 65-70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 6,578,203) in view of Paff (US Patent No. 5,164,827). Claims 27-30 and 59-62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 6,578,203) in view of Paff (US Patent No. 5,164,827) and further in view of Honey et al (U.S. Patent no. 6,154,250). Claims 7-10, 17 and 39-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 6,578,203) in view of Narayanaswami (US Patent No. 6,679,654). Claims 12, 69 and 70 stand objected to.

In response to the first office action, claims 5, 8, 11-12, 17, 26, 28-30, 32, 41, 43, 49, 62 and 64 are canceled. Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-10, 13-16, 18-22, 24-25, 27, 31, 33-40, 42, 44-46, 50, 58-61, 63 and 69-70 have been amended to place them in better form for allowance. New claims 71-94 have been added. No new matter has been added to the application. The application is now believed to be in form for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Overview of Applicants' claimed invention.

The Applicant's invention is in the field of multimedia entertainment technology. Applicant's invention is useful to provide video entertainment in the form of more than one video perspective captured by more than one synchronized camera located at and capturing video from a live entertainment venue for processing and delivery from server for display at remote viewers. An important element of all Applicant's independent claims is claimed invention is in the inventions enablement of the simultaneous capture of at least two arena camera views of a live entertainment activity at an arena using a primary camera and at least one slave camera located proximate to the arena with movement of the at least one slave camera being synchronized to movement of the primary camera. At least two arena camera views provided

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from the primary camera and the at least one slave camera are transmitted to a server where they are processed for display on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer. Display of at least one arena camera view is enabled on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer in response to user selection of said at least one arena camera view from said at least two arena camera views at the at least one remote viewer. Remote viewers can include digital entertainment monitors (e.g., HDTV systems) served data via cable television networks an/or satellite networks and also hand held devices (e.g., smart phones, PDAs,) served data via cellular telecommunications networks and/or WiFi, the remote viewers adapted to enable simultaneous receipt of multiple video perspective for selective display on a screen associated with the remote viewer.

FIGS. 28-31 of Applicants' specification illustrate an example of a typical scenario at an arena wherein a primary camera (master camera) is located above a boxing ring and at least two slave cameras are deployed around the boxing ring (in each corner). The slave cameras move in synchronization with the primary camera enabling the capture of more than one video perspective of activity within the boxing ring. Spectators at the arena or remote (e.g., at home) can view more than one video perspective given the more than one perspective being captured by the synchronized cameras.

Communications between the synchronized camera system and remote viewers as claimed and explicitly defined in the specification can includes use of public or private, secured or non-secured wireless equipment (e.g., servers, gateways, transmitters) and communications networks (e.g., IP data network, WiFi, Satellite, Cable TV, GSM, GPRS, W-CDMA) as described in the application.

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III. Summary of Primary References cited against Independent Claims 1, 33 and 65.

Anderson et al.

The key distinction Anderson et al is that it does not teach the use of synchronized cameras for the delivery of video in its system. Furthermore, Anderson does not use a server to receive more than one video perspective from synchronized cameras, process the video and provide the video to remote viewers via communications between the remote viewers and the synchronized camera system.

Anderson mainly teaches a "head mounted display" that directly receives video captured from cameras located throughout an entertainment venue and displays it within a head mounted display. The cameras taught by Anderson are not synchronized cameras, where movement of any one camera is dependent on and automatically controlled by the movement of another camera. Anderson teaches multiple receivers (75) or a demodulator (82)/multiplexer (88) located in the head mounted display 104 to manage multiple signals provided directly by undefined cameras at the venue.

Column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 15 and column 4, lines 6-54 were consulted as directed in the office action, but synchronized cameras or their operation was not found.

The device described in the Anderson reference is specifically taught as being a "head mounted display." Anderson specifically incorporates by reference for its teaching U.S. Patent No. 5,844,656 entitled "Head Mounted Display with Adjustment Components" by Ronzani et al. (see column 25, lines 25-30). In fact, the Anderson reference is entitled "audio/video signal distribution system for Head Mounted displays." Anderson's head mounted display cannot enable a user to view more than one arena camera view at the same time. The binocular-styled format in Anderson would only enable the user to view only one video image at a time, albeit on two tiny screens located within the device.

Paff

Paff is not used in the entertainment industry. Paff is a premises surveillance security system specifically used for security applications. Entertainment applications are not discussed or suggested in Paff. Paff exclusively teaches the use of a video system having master-slave camera relationships to deliver camera surveillance video from multiple viewing angles of an object moving about a surveilled property.

IV. Rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 11-15, 18-24, 33, 35-38 and 43-56 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Anderson, Jr. et al (US Patent No. 6,578,203).

Claims 11, 12, 43 and 49 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 13-14, 18-24, 36-38, 44-46, and 50 have been amended. Applicant will address the substance of Examiner's rejection of independent claims 1 and 33. Claims 3-6, 11-15, and 18-24 are dependent on Claim 1, and claims 35-38 and 43-56 are dependent on claim 33; therefore the dependent claims stand or fall based on their respective independent claims.

Independent claims 1 and 33 have been amended to read as follows for the purpose of providing more clarity:

1. A method for capturing, transmitting and processing arena camera views in an entertainment arena as video for display on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer, said method comprising the steps of:

simultaneously capturing at least two arena camera views of a live entertainment activity in an arena using a primary camera and at least one slave camera located proximate to the arena wherein movement of the at least one slave camera is synchronized to movement of the primary camera enabling the primary camera and the at least one slave camera to remain focused on a similar target of interest in the arena while simultaneously capturing the at least two arena camera views;

transmitting said at least two arena camera views provided from the primary camera and the at least one slave camera to a server;

processing said at least two arena camera views at said server for display on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer; and

enabling display of at least one arena camera view on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer in response to user selection of said at least one arena camera view from said at least two arena camera views at the at least one remote viewer, thereby enabling a user of the at least one remote viewer to view the at least one arena camera view through said display screen associated with the remote viewer.

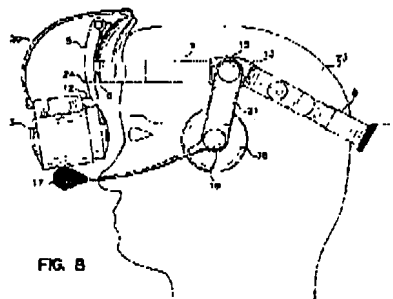
33. A system for transmitting over a communications network more than one video perspective provided by synchronized cameras simultaneously capturing multiple views of an entertainment activity at an arena for display at remote viewers, said system comprising:

synchronized cameras including a primary camera and at least one slave camera located proximate to an arena for capturing more than one video perspective of entertainment activity in the arena, wherein the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity can be transmitted from said synchronized cameras to a server;

a server for processing the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity for display on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer; and

a communications network for transmitting the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity to at least one remote viewer for selective display of the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity on a display screen associated with said at least one remote viewer.

Anderson does not teach or suggest a system for transmitting over a communications network more than one video perspective provided by synchronized cameras simultaneously capturing multiple views of an entertainment activity at an arena for display at remote viewers. Anderson does not teach or suggest a method for capturing, transmitting and processing arena camera views in an entertainment arena as video for display on a display screen associated with at least one remote viewer. Anderson specifically teaches a Head Mounted Display similar to that illustrated below:



The head mounted display illustrated above is incorporated by reference into the Anderson patent. The head mounted display must be attached to a person's head 23 during use at an entertainment venue so that video provided by cameras capturing video at the venue. The cameras taught in Anderson are not synchronized cameras. The Anderson device is not capable of functioning as the remote viewer capable of displaying at least one arena camera view selected from more than one arena camera view captured by synchronized cameras at an arena. The remote viewer would have to support the viewing of more than one video at a time, such as PDAs, cellular telephones, hand held televisions, which are specifically held in a user's hand during use for viewing video and are more conducive to enabling the user to view more than one video signal simultaneously on a display and for enabling selection of a single video image by the user.

V. Rejection of claims 2, 25, 26, 34, 57, 58 and 65-70 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 6,578,203) in view of Paff (US Patent No. 5,164,827).

Claim 26 has been canceled. Claims 2, 34, 58, 65 and 69-70 have been amended to provide additional clarity and overcome objections. Applicant will address the substance of Examiner's rejection of independent claim 65. Claims 2 and 25 are dependent on claim 1 whose patentability has already been discussed in Section IV (above). Claims 34, 57 and 58 are dependent on claim 33 whose patentability has already been discussed in Section IV (above). Claim 66-70 are dependent on Claim 65 and therefore stand or fall based on the patentability of claim 65. Claim 65 will be the focus of the following remarks.

Independent claim 65 has been amended to read as follows for the purpose of providing more clarity:

65. A system for transmitting more than one video perspective provided by synchronized cameras simultaneously capturing multiple views of an entertainment activity at an arena for display on a display screen associated with at least one hand held device located in the arena, said system comprising:

synchronized cameras including primary camera and at least one slave camera located proximate to an arena for capturing more than one video perspective of

entertainment activity in the arena, wherein the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity can be transmitted from said synchronized cameras to a server;

a server for processing the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity for display on a display screen associated with at least one hand held device physically located in the arena; and

a communications network associated with said server, wherein the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity can be communicated from said server through said communications network to said at least one and held device;

wherein the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity is displayed on said at least one display screen in response to a user selection at the at least one hand held device, thereby enabling a user of said at least one hand held device to view at least one of the more than one video perspective of entertainment activity through said at least one hand held device.

As with the prior remarks, Anderson does not teach or suggest a system for transmitting over a communications network more than one video perspective provided by synchronized cameras simultaneously capturing multiple views of an entertainment activity at an arena for display at hand held devices. Anderson does not teach or suggest a method for capturing, transmitting and processing arena camera views captured by synchronized cameras.

Paff is used specifically for security surveillance and does not teach or suggest a method or system for capturing, processing and transmitting over a communications network more than one video perspective captured by synchronized cameras at an entertainment activity or in an arena for display on a display screen associated with at least one hand held device.

One skilled in the art would not find the hint or suggestion in Paff or Anderson to combine master-slave security surveillance cameras with the head mounted display taught by Anderson to deliver multiple video perspectives from synchronized cameras operating in an entertainment venue to hand held devices. Neither Anderson nor Paff teach or suggest methods or systems simultaneously capturing multiple views of an "entertainment activity" at an arena using a primary and at least one slave camera, processing the views at a server and communicating the view from the server through a communication network for display at hand held devices.

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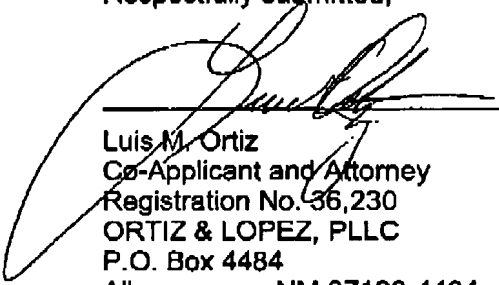
VI. Conclusion

Applicants believe the amendments and new claims, together with the above remarks, place the pending claims in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 103 based on the forgoing. Reconsideration and early allowance of Applicants' application is also respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned representative to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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